



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
McDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, May 5, 2011

**Granite Reef Senior Center, Room 1
1700 N. Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257**

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

PRESENT: Howard Myers, Chairman
James Heitel, Vice Chairman
Fred Klein, Commissioner
Deke Joralmon, Commissioner
Linda Whitehead, Commissioner
Melinda Gulick, Commissioner
Carla, Commissioner
Gerald Miller, Commissioner
Rand Hubbell, Commissioner

ABSENT: BJ Heggli, Commissioner
Susan Wheeler, Commissioner

STAFF: Bill Murphy
Kroy Ekblaw
Claire Miller
Robbin Schweitzer
Scott Hamilton
Joe Padilla

GUESTS: Mike Nolan
Con Englehorn
Joni Millavec
Peter Corbett, AZ Republic
Marg Nelssen
David Hay
Sam West

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present as noted above.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public wished to speak.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the meeting minutes of April 7, 2011

Commissioners provided comments regarding items discussed in the minutes.

COMMISSIONER JORALMON MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 7, 2011 MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR HEITEL, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A VOTE OF NINE (9) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS HEGGLI AND WHEELER WERE ABSENT.

5. MCDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY UPDATE

Mr. Nolan updated the Commission on activities at the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy including Family Fridays activities, corporate workdays, and community service projects. He noted that the Pathfinders have determined that trail usage is sufficient to schedule shifts through the month of May. Information regarding plans for fire season is expected to be released next week.

6. STAFF REPORTS

- **DDC Phase III Update**

Mr. Ekblaw said that the newly appointed DDC Phase III Committee would hold their first meeting on Wednesday, May 11 at the Gateway. Subsequent regular meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month at SkySong. The Commission will be kept informed of the Committee's progress and given opportunities to provide input.

- **Land Acquisition Strategy Update**

Mr. Ekblaw said that land acquisition strategy would be part of the land prioritization discussion on the agenda for June and July.

- **North Area - Staff Planning Activities**

Mr. Murphy noted that internal discussions and plan development for the north area were ongoing. Mr. Hamilton talked about the focus group meeting with both equestrians and mountain bikers giving input on the design process and noted that a meeting with Troon is scheduled for May 17. There will be an open house on June 8. The ASU intern starting on May 16 will be working on the design of significant entry points.

Commissioners were provided the opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

7. APS - 118th STREET POWERLINE STATUS

Mr. Ekblaw provided a presentation on the alternatives for the 118th Street power lines, focusing on the option to underground the lines for approximately one mile through the existing Preserve area. He thoroughly discussed the process of placing the easement on the section of Preserve land, the undergrounding and restoration process and project timeline, all of which will be supervised by Preserve staff. Once the project is completed it is anticipated that a permanent gate will be installed at the trail end at 118th Street.

Commissioners were provided the opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

8. COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

- **Promotion Subcommittee**

Commissioner Whitehead reviewed items discussed during the Promotion Subcommittee meeting held on April 18, 2011, which included discussion about events during the McDowell Sonoran Preserve season, the Preserve Connections program, and the proposed Preserve Communications Plan for FY 2011/12. The Committee felt that reinstitution of the Mayor's Breakfast as a kickoff to the McDowell Sonoran Preserve season would be beneficial and they also recommended adjusting the communications strategy to further educate residents who may not be users of the Preserve and to focus the Preserve Connections program towards families and children.

Commissioners were given the opportunity to comment.

COMMISSIONER WHITEHEAD MOVED TO RECOMMEND REINSTITUTING THE MAYOR COUNCIL BREAKFAST IN OCTOBER TO KICK OFF THE UPCOMING MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE SEASON. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GULICK, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A VOTE OF NINE (9) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS HEGGLI AND WHEELER WERE ABSENT.

- **Land Resources Task Force**

The Commission reviewed and discussed the Preserve Land Funding Options matrix provided by Vice-Chair Heitel and the color-coded matrix provided by Chair Myers.

9. COMMISSION COMMENTS

In response to a question by Commissioner Carla, Mr. Murphy explained that the City Council meeting scheduled for May 24 will be a work-study to discuss boards and commissions as a whole.

To listen to this meeting in its entirety, please go to www.scottsdaleaz.gov, click on Mayor, Council, and Government, click on Boards and Commissions, click on McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission, click on Meeting Audios/Videos, go to Archived Videos (at the bottom) and click on the meeting you wish to listen to. Computers are available for public use at Scottsdale's public libraries.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR JUNE 2011

Agenda items tentatively scheduled for the June meeting include the Land Resources Task Force, Tom's Thumb, Brown's Ranch, North Area planning, a financial update, and, at the request of Chair Myers, discussion of 118th and 128th Streets.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.